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(54) **RETENTION MECHANISM FOR VEHICLE WHEEL ASSEMBLY**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A wheel end assembly including a live spindle secured to a wheel hub at an outboard end. A bearing surrounding the spindle and abutted against a shoulder on the spindle. Said bearing preloaded by a retention structure that slidably engages the bearing to compress the bearing against the shoulder. A clutch ring slidably engages splines associated with the live spindle and with an axle portion to connect and disconnect the axle to the live spindle and accordingly the wheel hub.

2 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets

